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Attorney Docket No. T9790.CON.CIP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: DAVID T. HAWKES, et)
al.)
TITLE: CERVICAL PLATE FOR)
STABILIZING THE HUMAN)
SPINE)
SERIAL NO.: 10/782,740) SUBMISSION OF PROCESSING
AND RETENTION FEE UNDER
FILED: February 18, 2004) 37 C.F.R. §1.53(f)
EXAMINER _____)
ART UNIT: 3723)

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f), applicant may submit and pay the processing and retention fee of \$130.00 set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.21(l), at any time during the pendency of the above-captioned application, in order to prevent the Office from disposing of the application, and to preserve any claim to priority made during such pendency.

Certificate of Deposit Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the 30 day of August, 2004.

09/02/2004 HTECKLU1 00000057 10782740

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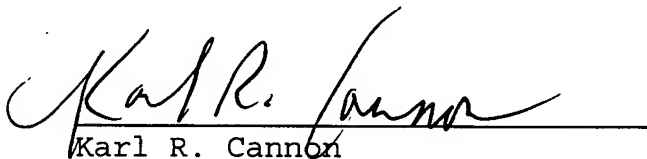
Karl R. Cannon
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Attorney for Applicant

Therefore, enclosed is a credit card payment form PTO-2038, sufficient in amount, to secure retention in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the above-captioned application. The Office shall therefore not dispose of the above-captioned application, but shall retain it on file so that priority to said above-captioned application as claimed in a co-pending application shall be preserved (said co-pending application is filed under separate cover).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this submission to deposit account no. 50-0836.

DATED this 30 day of August, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



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